

REMARKS

Claims 8-10, 12-15 and 40-44 are pending. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration based on the following remarks. Claims 1-7, 11 and 16-39 have been previously cancelled. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims presented are in condition for allowance. No new matter has been added.

CLAIM REJECTIONS - § 112

The Examiner states that claims 8-15, and 40-44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. The Examiner states that the claims contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The Examiner specifically states that the limitation “the same planar shape as the data conductive layer except for a portion located between the source electrode and the drain electrode” of claim 8 is not supported by the specification. The Examiner further queries “[w]here is the support for the designation of ‘substantially . . . planar’ as in claim 8?” Applicants respectfully traverse for at least the reasons set forth below.

First, the Examiner mistakenly includes claim 11 in the rejected claims despite its previous cancellation.

Second, support for the previous amendments to claims 8 and 15 and previously presented new claims 43 and 44 can be found at least in FIGS. 9-11 and pages 18-19 of the specification as originally filed. Support may also be found on page 3, lines 13-15 and page 5, lines 19-24 of the specification as originally filed, as well as original claims 16 and 31.

Third, with respect to Examiner’s inquiry “[w]here is the support for the designation of ‘substantially . . . planar’ as in claim 8?”, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner attention to FIG. 10 of the group of FIGS. 9-11, for example, and specifically page 19, lines 12-20 of the specification as originally filed and reproduced below:

The semiconductor stripes and islands 151 and 157 have **almost the same planar shapes** as the data lines 171, the drain electrodes 175 and the storage capacitor conductors 177 as well as the underlying ohmic contacts 161, 165 and 167, except for the projections 154 where TFTs are provided. In particular, the semiconductor islands 157, the ohmic contact islands 167 and the storage conductors 177 have **substantially the same planar shape**. The semiconductor stripes 151 include some exposed portions, which are not covered with the data lines 171, the drain electrodes 175 and the storage conductors 177, such as portions located between the source electrodes 173 and the drain electrodes 175.

[Emphasis added.]

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the limitation “the same planar shape as the data conductive layer except for a portion located between the source electrode and the drain electrode” of claim 8 is supported by the specification as originally filed.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection to claims 8-15, and 40-44 be withdrawn and allow the same to issue.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and a Notice of Allowance issued. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicants' attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is cordially requested to telephone the undersigned.

In the event the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks deems additional fees to be due in connection with this application, Applicants' attorney hereby authorizes that such fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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